

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 4, please replace lines 7-10 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 1 is a diagram illustrating a protective helmet assembly looking up into the interior of the protective helmet assembly and where the right side of the helmet is on the right side of the diagram, according to an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Page 4, please replace lines 21-21 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 7 is a diagram illustrating a fastener for connecting the suspension band, the nape pad, and the chinstrap subassembly of the lightweight suspension system to the helmet shell, according to an illustrative embodiment of the present invention; figures 2-7 all being views looking through a helmet shell into the interior of the protective helmet assembly.

Page 5, please replace lines 21. – 23 with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 3 is a diagram illustrating a ~~right~~ wearer's left side view of lightweight suspension system 150 of FIG. 1, according to an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. As noted above, suspension system 150 has suspension band 160

Page 6, please replace lines 8-14, with the following replacement paragraph: ????

For each of the loops 305 that attaches headband 170 to suspension band 160, another hook and loop fastener tab 322 is employed "underneath" loop 305 ~~in-between~~

and as part of both headband 170 and suspension band 160. Thus, for each of the loops 305, there is hook and loop fastener 320 on the headband 170 for wrapping around suspension band 160 and another hook and loop fastener tab 322 having portions on both the contact areas of headband 170 and suspension band 160 that are is under a given one of the loops 305 when that loop is fastened. At the two front portions of loops 305 (as shown in Figure 4), there is a portion of hook and loop material fastened to suspension band 160 on the side of the band that faces the interior of the shell 110 (not shown in figure 4). These two positions of hook and loop material anchor the headband 170 to the suspension band 160 and thereby prevent rotation of the headband 170 within the protective helmet assembly.

Page 7, please replace lines 4-11, with the following replacement paragraph:

The suspension band 160 is attached to shell 110 via fasteners ~~180~~ 181. Referring now to FIG. 7, a diagram is provided illustrating one of the fasteners ~~180a~~ 181a of FIG. 1, according to an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The fastener ~~180a~~ 181a connects, at the least, suspension band 160 of suspension system 150 to shell 110. The metal fastener ~~180a~~ 181a may include a screw 791 and a clip 792. The screw 791 may have a head portion 793 and a threaded portion 794. The clip 792 is for receiving threaded portion 794 of screw 791 and for providing a surface of adjustable tension between at least suspension band 160 and shell 110.

Page 7, please replace lines 12-21 with the following replacement paragraph:

The clip 792 may include a raised portion 795 for receiving threaded portion 794 of screw 791 and for allowing one or more grommets 796 to pass there ~~through~~ around. The grommets 796 may be located on any straps corresponding to a chinstrap or nape pad (i.e., first sets of nylon straps 350a and 350b) as described below. As shown in Figure 4, the ~~The~~ suspension band 160 includes apertures 477 for allowing raised portion 795 of clip 792 and threaded portion 794 of screw 791 to at least partially pass there through. That is, the apertures 477 allow for the raised portion 795 of clip 792 inserted from ~~one~~ the innermost side of the suspension band 160 (and through a corresponding grommet 796) to mate with the threaded portion 794 of screw 791 inserted from the outside of helmet shell 110 and into the other side of the suspension band 160.

Page 8, please replace lines 4-12 with the following replacement paragraph:

The nap pad and chinstrap subassembly 324 includes a nape pad subassembly 330 and a chinstrap subassembly 340. The nape pad subassembly 330 is for providing fore and aft positioning of the protective helmet assembly 100 relative to a nape of a neck of a wearer. The nape pad subassembly 330 may be attached to shell 110 via at least some of the metal fasteners ~~180a, b~~ 181a, 181b. The metal fasteners ~~180 181~~ maintain suspension band 160 in a fixed position with respect to shell 110 while at least some of the metal fasteners ~~180-a, b~~ 181a, 181b provide adjustment of the fore and aft positioning of protective helmet assembly 100 relative to the nape of the neck of the wearer.

Page 8, Please replace lines 13-18 with the following replacement paragraph:

The chinstrap subassembly 340 is for securing a position of protective helmet assembly 100 relative to a chin of a wearer. The chinstrap subassembly 340 is attached to shell 110 via at least some of the metal fasteners ~~180e,d~~ 181c, 181d. The metal fasteners ~~180~~ 181 maintain suspension band 160 in a fixed position with respect to shell 110 while at least some of the metal fasteners ~~180e,d~~ 181c, 181d provide adjustment of the position of protective helmet assembly 100 relative to the chin of the wearer.

Page 9, please replace lines 1-3 with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Figure 4, the The chinstrap portion 370 includes a first nylon strap 372 for securing under the chin and a second nylon strap 374 connected to first nylon strap 372 for securing in front of the chin.

Page 9, please replace lines 4-9 with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Figure 3, the The coupling 355 includes a first set of straps 376, a first set of strap joiners 378, and a first set of strap clips 380. Each of strap joiners 378 has a first connection point 381, a second connection point 382, and a third connection point 383. Each of straps 376 is respectively connected to one of the strap clips 380 and to the first connection point 381 of one of the strap joiners 378, with adjustment provided by the strap clip 380.

Page 9, please replace lines 10-14 with the following replacement paragraph:

As shown in Figure 4, the The second connection point 382 of each strap joiner 378 is respectively connected to the chinstrap portion 370 via a quick release latch 386

(positioned on the ~~right~~ left side of a wearer's head ~~nape pad and chinstrap subassembly~~ 324) and a strap clip (~~on the left side, see 420 of FIG. 4~~). The quick release latch 386 provides a quick release of the chinstrap portion 370 from the chin of the wearer.

Page 9, please replace lines 15-17 with the following replacement paragraph:

The third connection point 383 of each of strap joiners 378 is respectively connected to shell 110 via straps 350b, adjustment clips 455, and at least some of the metal fasteners 181c,d ~~180e,d~~.

Page 9, please replace lines 18-19 with the following replacement paragraph:

The nape pad subassembly 330 includes nylon straps 350a that are attached to shell 110 via at least some of the metal fasteners 181a, b ~~180a,b~~.